

Amendments to the Specification:

Please delete Objections of the Invention which starts on page 5, line 4 and ends on page 6, line 12.

Please replace paragraph 3 on page 17, line 18, with the following amended paragraph:

Several preferred processes for applying the granular particle coating to the die face are disclosed in U.S. Patent Nos. 3,024,128 and 4,643,740, which are is also incorporated by reference herein. Generally the metal matrix or brazing alloy and the refractory particles are applied to the backing surface of the die and the die is heated to a temperature sufficient to cause the metal matrix to reach a liquid or semi-solid state. When the metal matrix cools from the liquid or semi-solid state, the granular particles will be firmly bonded or fused to the backing surface. In practical application, the process begins by cleaning the die backing surface to remove grease or scale from the backing surface. Next a temporary adhesive or binder material is applied to the backing surface to which the metal matrix and the refractory particles will adhere until heating of the die takes place. The temporary adhesive may be a volatile liquid vehicle, such as water, alcohol, or mixtures thereof, or the like which can be volitized and dried readily. This allows the temporary adhesive to be applied by a spray on process, roller type applicators, or by any other conventional manner. "Shellac" as disclosed in U.S. Patent No. 3,024,128 is one such temporary adhesive. After application of the temporary adhesive, the metal matrix and refractory particles will be applied to the backing surface. The metal matrix and refractory particles will typically be in a powder form and generally sprinkled in a thin layer onto the backing surface. The sprinkling process can be carried out by any number of machines such as the electro-magnetically vibrated feeder as disclosed in column 5 of U.S. Patent No. 3,024,128. Generally, some conventional method is used to insure any excess powder is not retained on the backing surface. For

example, the backing surface may be positioned at an angle during the sprinkling process such that only the thin layer of powder actually contacting the adhesive remains on the backing surface and any excess powder falls from the backing surface. In this manner, the thickness of the final granular coating may be no greater than the diameter of the largest granular particles.